

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace the current title with the following amended title:

~~METHOD FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION AT AN ENGINEERING PORTAL~~
SITEMETA AND CASE DATABASE DISTRIBUTED INFORMATION SYSTEM AND
METHOD IMPLEMENTING RULE BASED SOLUTIONS TO CUSTOMER AND
COMPANY SPECIFIC ENGINEERING PROBLEMS

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, lines 12-26 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 2 shows an example of the structure of the problem case database 105. This database has (1) an engineering field 401 belonging to the corresponding problem, (2) a desired-to-improve parameter 402, (3) a deteriorated parameter 403, (4) a solution rule No., 404, (5) a problem name 405, a solution 406, and (7) attendant information concerned with solution 407 incidental to the solution. The engineering field 401 belonging to the problem is displayed and arranged in order for the user to be easy to see when many problem cases are found as a result of searching. The attendant information 407 incidental to the solution is the attendant information concerned with solution of the problem case database, such as dates on which problem cases occurred, and company names with problem cases generated.

Please replace the paragraph at page 8, line 27 - page 9, line 14 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 3 shows an example of the structure of the problem meta database 106. This database has a table with the past engineering problems sorted out. The

abscissa 130 of the table shows the parameters that deteriorate on the corresponding problem, and the ordinate 140 of the table indicates the parameters that are desired to improve. In the table, the solution rule numbers are given in the respective cells. Therefore, the problem meta database 106 has, in order to solve the corresponding problem, (1) the desired-to-improve parameter 402, (2) the deteriorated parameter 403, and (3) the solution rule ~~404~~No. 404 corresponding to a combination of the desired-to-improve parameter 402 and the deteriorated parameter 403 as data. Here, the numbers No. of solution rules in FIG. 3 correspond to the numbers No. in FIG. 4.

Please replace the paragraph at page 11, lines 7-27 with the following amended paragraph:

FIG. 7 shows an example of the result thus displayed. In this example, a fescue for use in the presentation by OHP (overhead projector) is tried to be made more compact without deteriorating its function. In other words, a problem occurs that the length of the fescue is desired to increase, but its volume is not wanted to increase as the requested characteristics. Here, the meta knowledge for the solution corresponds to the selected cell indicating that the volume and length of a moving object have been selected as a deteriorated parameter and a desired-to-improve parameter in the matrix shown in FIG. 3. That is, the cell includes, as solution rules, No. 7 (rule of nesting), No. 17 (rule of transition to other dimension), No. 4 (rule of asymmetry), and No. 35 (rule of ~~parameter change~~changing condensed condition). FIG. 7 shows solution rules found by searching the problem meta database 105.

Moreover, the problem case ~~database 105~~ database 106 is searched according to the solution rules, and case data are displayed in a table form on the Web browser on the user's terminal.

Please replace the paragraph at page 19, lines 15-19 with the following amended paragraph:

If the problem meta database is decided not to use in step 702, the problem case database 305 is searched in step 706 with reference to the problem-related information entered in step 701, and the result is displayed in step 707. **FDB-- is this correct?**